

Number 110

15th May 1981

John D. Bowlby of Hamilton was re-elected Treasurer of the Society today.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Sydney Robins received the degree of Doctor of Laws at a Special Convocation in Osgoode Hall on May 14th, and addressed the final group of 33 graduates of the Bar Admission Course who were called to the Bar and took the necessary oaths before the Chief Justice of the High Court. The profession now numbers 15,301.

The enactment in 1978 of Section 20 of the Child Welfare Act introduced a statutory right in children to legal representation in child welfare proceedings, and where a child is unrepresented, the court determines whether legal representation is desirable to protect the interests of the child. One view of this provision is that the lawyer's role would be to act as the guardian and advocate for what he regards as being in the best interests of the child, which may differ from the child's own wishes. Convocation, however, adopted the view of the Professional Conduct Committee that the lawyer should treat his child client as he would any other client so long as the child has the capacity to state a preference as to the outcome of the court proceedings. Copies of the Committee's report are available from the Society.

Members are reminded that student applications for interviews are to be submitted by the end of July and arrangements for interviews are to be made in the first three weeks of August with no interviews being conducted before the fourth Monday in August.

Gordon David Goldman of Toronto was disbarred on the 14th May 1981. He had been convicted in Provincial Court (Criminal Division) of conspiring to possess counterfeit money and sentenced to 15 months imprisonment.

C. Abdul Rashid of Toronto was disbarred today. He had misappropriated over \$50,000.00 of clients' trust funds.

David Roy Gilbert of Toronto was reprimanded in Convocation today, ordered to pay the costs of the Society's investigation and for the next 9 months to file monthly listings of his trust obligations and bank reconciliations.

David A. Wetmore of Toronto was reprimanded in Convocation today and ordered to pay the costs of the Society's investigation within 90 days. He had failed to report and account promptly to a client respecting a real estate transaction, and failed to file with the Society the required reports respecting his practice.

Over 400 members face suspension on the 1st June 1981 if they have not by then paid their Errors and Omissions Insurance Levy, or been granted exemption from coverage.

The Treasurer read a letter from Dean Stanley M. Beck of Osgoode Hall Law School of York University announcing that George A. Johnston, for many years the Society's Chief Librarian and now its Archivist, will receive an honorary degree at York University on 12th June 1981 at 2.30 p.m. Members of the profession are invited to attend.

Kenneth Jarvis,
Secretary.